(b) whether liberalisation in the quasi-monopoly enjoyed by Government controlled agencies on text-books for primary school children was strongly advocated at the conference;

(c) if so, what were the other subjects discussed and whether any recommendations had been made; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) National Book Development Council has set up a Working Group to draft National Book Policy. The Working Group has prepared a draft for National Book Policy, which was discussed in a workshop held at New Delhi from 15th to 17th February, 1986.

(b) to (d) The National Book Developmen t Council which organised this workshop has not finalised its recommendations.

World Book Fair

*349. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the "Times of India" on 19th February, 1986 where in it has been stated that the Seventh World Book Fair held in New Delhi was a big failure; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) The Government does not agree with the view that the Seventh World Book Fair held in New Delhi was a failure. The number of Indian and Foreign Publishers who paricipated in the Fair and the number of visitors to the Seventh World Book Fair was more than in the Sixth World Book Fair.

Memoirandum Regarding Train Services in the Bhavnagar Division

*350. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI RAMSINGBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a detailed memorandum regarding six issues relating to long distance trains, inter city trains, Saurashtra Mail Okha-Viramgam shuttle timings, Rajkot-Veraval-Vansajalia train and diesel engines for local trains etc. of the Bhavnagar Division of the Western Railways have been received in February, 1986 by the Western Railways authorities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) *Yes, Sir.*

(b) and (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The main demands raised by them, and comments on the same are given below :—

Demand	Remarks
1. Change in timings of 208 to arrive Wankaner Jn. at 21-45 hrs. instead of 22·30 hrs.	From 1-4-86, 208 Up will be arriving Wankaner Jn. at 22-225 hrs. Howerver after giving a new stoppage at Wankaner City from 1-4-86 the train will be arriving at that station at 22-08 hrs.
2. Stoppage of 208 Up at Wankaner City.	This is being provided from 1-4-86.
3. Commercial stoppages of 47 Dn/48 Up Fast Passanger at Bhatel.	This will be provided from 1-4-86.
4. Extension of long distance trains to Saurashtra, introduction of Inter city Express between Jamnagar/Rajkot and Ahmadabad, dieselisation of passenger services presently hauled by steam locomotives.	Due to shortage of coaches, locomotives, terminal facilities and line capacity constraints, these have not been found feasible at present. Dieselisation of services in Saurashtra is not feasible at present due to shortage of diesel locomotives.
5. Increasing the speeds of trains by eliminating shunting.	Speeding up of the trains by eliminating shunting has not been found feasible because of safety marshalling of the slip coaches.
6. No cancellation of trains in Saurashtra despite non-availability of water.	Due to the acute shortage of water, some trains will have to be cancelled, depending upon the situation from time to time.
7. Restorating of old timings of 343/344 Rajkot Veraval Fast Pass nger.	The timings of 343/344 were changed after discussion with the MPs of Saurashtra, and its connection provided with 15/16 Saurashtra Express at Rajkot. Restoration of old timings is, therefore, not possible.
8. Additonal shuttle service between Wansjaliy and Porbandar.	As even the existing trains are not fully patronised, additional trains is not justified.
9. Augmentation of 203/204, 207/208 and 47/48 Passenger trains in Saurashtra.	Broad Gauge Passenger trains like 203/204 Viramagam-Rajkot 207/208 Viragam-Okha and 47/48 Okha-Vadodara are having a combined rake link. As the accommodation available is not fully utilised, their augmentation is not justified.
10. Allotment tof quota for Rajkot by certain passenger trains.	Since the existing quotas provided to various stations are fully utilised, provision of additional quota at Rajkot can be at the cost of other stations only which will lead to complaints from these stations.
11. Detachment of Dining Car by 15/16 Saurashtra Express at Ahmedabad.	This is being examined.